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The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

DDI- 3566-83//

19 MAY 1983

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MEMORANDUM FOR:	SIG(I) Committee on Priorities	
SUBJECT:	National Intelligence Topics	25 X 1
REFERENCE:	"Report for the SIG(I) Committee on Intelligence Production and on Intelligence Priorities," dated 26 April 1983	
	` ₹.	
of a substantial amount of intelligence product, insoft the quarterly reports to the referenced above and was Secretary for review prior 2. In preparation for of the policy elements reprimportant questions that sluduring the period July 1983 been reduced this year in a focus the list more precise As agreed at the 11 May main which a response is need designator (see Attachmen be structured in a format (Current Interest served as a reference point for the production finished intelligence on subjects of policy concern. This ar as it addressed the 1982 NITs, has been reported to you in e SIG(I) Committee on Priorities. The last of these reports is provided to you under separate cover by the SIG(I) Executive to the 11 May SIG(I) Committee meeting. publishing the 1983 NITs of Current Interest, I ask that each resented on the Committee provide me a list of the five most hould be of priority concern to the Intelligence Community 8 to July 1984. The number of questions from each of you has order to reduce the resulting total number of topics, and to 1y on those critical areas anticipated during the coming year. The policy element will also indicate the time frame led by assigning each question either a Category A or B at 1 for definitions of these categories). The questions should use Attachment 2) that will facilitiate their integration into a 1s and will provide intelligence producers a more specific ing and scheduling.	25X1 25X1
15 July for review and fina in late July or early Augus on actions.) Changes, part during the forthcoming year	ve your response by I July, with a SIG(I) Committee meeting on I approval of the consolidated list of NITs, which will be issued to (See Attachment 3, "NIT Schedule and Actions," for follow-icularly additions, may be made to the new NITs at any time ar if you believe there is an urgent need to do so. Requests for the rationale and be forwarded to the IPC Staff for my	25X1

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4. I will greatly appreciate your cooperation and also welcome any ideas you may have on other ways for enhancing producer-consumer interaction. Your inputs for the 1983 NITs of Current Interest and any comments concerning the NIT process should be forwarded to (Room 2F21 CIA HQ), my action officer for this effort. If you have any questions, can be contacted on

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/S/ John N. McMahon
John N. McMahon

Attachments: as stated

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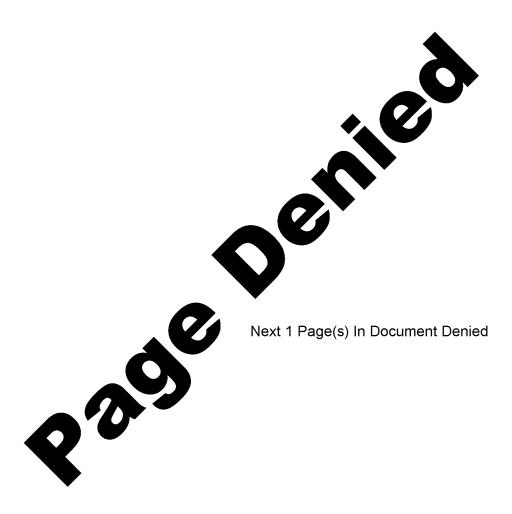
ATTACHMENT I

Categorization of the NITs

The categorization process is not an effort to prioritize the NIT questions, rather it is an attempt to reflect the policy relevance and time sensitivity of specific NIT issues. With that objective in mind, SIG(I) principals agreed on 11 May that each question submitted for the new NITs be assigned a Category A or B designator. These categories are defined below:

-Category A topics are those that are of immediate concern to the consumer given current policy developments and the need for information and analysis within the next six months. They would include questions that are specific in nature and require a Community response (e.g., response could be a typescript memorandum, SNIE, "Fast-Track" IIM) within a six month period. Such topics, if not responded to by the Community, will be retained in the existing NITs until a new set of NITs is approved by the SIG(I) Committee in June of each year unless the sponsors of the topics recommend their deletion. If Community products relevant to specific topics have been published, consumers who sponsored those topics will indicate. at the semiannual meeting (i.e., January of each year) of the SIG(I) Committee, whether such products have satisfied the question and should be deleted from the NITs or whether the question remains substantially unanswered and, consequently, should be retained as a valid information requirement.

—Category B topics are those that warrant special concern because of their relevance to US policy strategy and interests in the near term (six to 12 months) and require additional analysis and reporting to support policy decisions during that time frame. Such topics equate to those concerns that would be addressed by the Intelligence Community in products such as IIMs, SNIEs, NIEs, or departmental assessments. If the topics have not been satisfactorily answered during the time frame of the existing NITs but are of continuing interest to the consumer, they may be submitted as information requirements for the next annual issuance of the NITs. 25X1



ATTACHMENT 3

NIT Schedule and Actions

<u>Date</u>

Action

May 1983

Chairman, SIG(I) Committee on Intelligence Priorities requests each principal to provide a list of the five most important questions that should be of priority concern to the Intelligence Community over the next year (e.g., July 83-July 1984) and an indication as to when a

response to each is required.

1 July

SIG(I) Committee principals provide inputs requested by

Chairman, SIG(I) Committee to IPC Staff for

consolidation into a new list of NITs.

15 July

SIG(I) Committee on Intelligence Priorities meets to

approve new list of NITs.

Late July or early August

DDCI issues new NITs with a restatement of their purpose and an explanation of the categorization of the NITs in accordance with the time urgency of the

consumer's need for intelligence support.

October

IPC Staff, based on inputs from producers, identifies for SIG(I) Committee principals those NIT questions on which available data is insufficient to enable the Community to prepare a responsive product in the coming year.

January

SIG(I) Committee on Intelligence Priorities meets to discuss report on Intelligence Community's

responsiveness to the NITs (focus of report will be on Community production responses to Category A topics questions requiring a Community response within six

months).

May

Chairman, SIG(I) Committee on Intelligence Priorities disseminates to Committee principals a final progress report (Focus on Category B topics—questions requiring a Community response within six to 12 months—and a summary of NIT questions fully addressed in Community production) on the Community's responsiveness to the existing NITs and a request for new inputs for the next

issuance of NITs.

June

(SIG(I) Committee principals provide inputs requested

by Chairman, SIG(I) Committee to IPC Staff for

consolidation with a new list of NITs.

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June-July

SIG(I) Committee on Intelligence Priorities meets to approve new list of NITs

July

DDCI issuance of new NITs

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